

127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD

LR 2715(01)

An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Task Force on School Leadership

Fiscal Note for Original Bill Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	Projections FY 2017-18	Projections FY 2018-19
Net Cost (Savings) General Fund	\$0	\$148,075	\$153,666	\$159,481
Appropriations/Allocations General Fund	\$0	\$148,075	\$153,666	\$159,481

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$148,075 in fiscal year 2016-17 to the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program within the Department of Education for one Education Specialist III position and one Office Associate II position and related All Other costs associated with providing services and resources to school administrative units that form regional school leadership academies. The General Fund cost to support the 2 positions in the 2018-2019 biennium is estimated to be \$153,666 in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$159,481 in fiscal year 2018-19.

This legislation provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2016-17, the department shall consider providing state grants from the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services to support qualified school leadership academies. Public Law 2015, Chapter 267, Part T, the 2016-2017 biennial budget enacted on June 30, 2015, transferred \$750,000 in each year of the biennium from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services which, at the time had a zero balance. That provision was repealed, however, as part of Public Law 2015, Chapter 388, An Act To Provide for Tax Conformity and Funding Methods, enacted on March 16, 2016, bringing the balance in the Fund back to zero. Unless funding is provided in this or future legislation, no monies will be available in the Fund to provide the grants.

This legislation also allows for the Commissioner of Education to expend and disburse funds to support the establishment of regional school leadership academies from the enhancing school performance and opportunity cost component within the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools account. There currently are no funds budgeted for this purpose in either year of the 2016-2017 biennium.